GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2413
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2002
SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES FOR SC/ST AND BPL PEOPLE
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/BPL people provided employment under various rural employment schemes during the last three years, scheme-wise and State-wise ;

(b) the funds allocated under the schemes during the said period, State-wise and scheme-wise ;

(c) whether the Government propose to consider these schemes sufficient to raise the standard of living and provide self-employment to these categories of people; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to improve the situation ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a)& (b) : The Ministry is implementing the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), as an integrated Programme for Self Employment of persons below the poverty line (BPL) in rural areas.The Scheme provides special safeguards for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.50% of the total Swarozgaris assisted under the Scheme will be from SCs/STs.The Statement showing State-wise Central Allocations, total Swarozgaris assisted, coverage of SCs/STs under the Scheme during the last three years i.e 1999-2000, 200-2001 and 2001-2002 is at Annexure

(c)&(d) The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line in three years, by providing them income generating assets through a mix of Bank Credit and Government subsidy.The Scheme lays emphasis on the Group approach by organising the rural poor into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through the process of social mobilisation, their training and capacity building. As per the Scheme Guidelines, the Swarozgaries would take a minimum of three years to cross the poverty line, after receiving financial assistance for an economic activity.

The steps taken to improve the implementation of the Programme, include the following:

- The Guideline already provides for identification and selection of dominant activities through participative process keeping in view the local resources, the attitude, skill of the people and available marketing facilities as key activities in each block. For each key activity there should be a project report indicating the various elements i.e. training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing.

- The infrastructure required for the selected key activities for production, processing, quality testing, storage or marketing could be provided from the funds available under the SGSY infrastructure.

- Similarly, 10% of the annual allocation under the Scheme is earmarked for imparting Skill development training to Swarozgaris.

- The Scheme provides for involvement of NGOs as facilitators for formation of groups, their training and capacity building including skill development.

- The performance of the implementation of the SGSY is monitored continuously at all levels. At the Central level, the Programme is monitored by the Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC), at the State level by the State SGSY Committee, at the Block and District levels, through reports and physical verification of the assets.

- Concurrent evaluation as well as Evaluation studies through reputed institutions and organisations are conducted periodically to get the feedback back on the implementation of the Scheme.